

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 140

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 89

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 140—Relative to College and Career Pathways Month.

[Filed with Secretary of State July 11, 2008.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 140, Benoit. College and Career Pathways Month.

This measure would declare the month of June 2008 as College and Career Pathways Month to recognize the importance of career technical education for students, schools, and the State of California.

WHEREAS, Career technical education programs integrate rigorous academics that are taught through the lens of business, using real-world applications to provide multiple pathways for students to enter both career and college, and the State Department of Education has designed one of the best delivery models in the nation with the California Partnership Academies; and

WHEREAS, Career technical education, as delivered through career-themed academies and pathways programs, has had a significant positive influence on the students, schools, and the State of California by improving high school graduation rates, test scores, dropout rates, and college success; and

WHEREAS, California students who are enrolled in career technical education are preparing for both college and careers and should be recognized for their accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, According to the 2006 California Regional Occupational Centers and Programs Accountability Research Study, which was authored by Dr. Doug Mitchell from the University of California at Riverside, California pupils who participate in career technical programs in high school improve their grade point average at a higher rate than comparison pupils, earn higher wages than comparison group peers, are more successful in securing job raises and promotions than comparison group peers, and enroll in postsecondary educational institutions at a similar rate to their comparison group peers; and

WHEREAS, Philanthropic organizations should be recognized for their contribution to college and career pathways programs in California; and

WHEREAS, California has received significant financial support for college and career pathways programs from nonprofit organizations like the James Irvine Foundation and the Desert Healthcare District; regional agencies, such as the Riverside County Economic Development Agency

and Workforce Development Board; and private business philanthropy, such as the assistance provided by the Ford Motor Company Fund; and

WHEREAS, California regional and local college and career pathways programs should be recognized for their success; and

WHEREAS, Career Pathways Initiative, the career technical program created by the Coachella Valley Economic Partnership, has been recognized as a national best practice regional career technical program worthy of emulation, and additionally, in 2007, Black Oak Mine Unified High School, Whittier Union High School, and Coronado Unified High School received the 2007 biannual award for exemplary technical education programs from the State Department of Education; and

WHEREAS, Ford Partnership for Advanced Studies (Ford PAS), developed by Ford Motor Company Fund, is a program that provides curriculum, professional development, and technical assistance resources to communities wishing to increase career technical education pathways. California will host the Ford PAS National Networking Conference in Rancho Mirage from June 23 to 26, 2008; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature proclaims the month of June 2008 as College and Career Pathways Month to recognize the importance of career technical education for the students, schools, and State of California; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.